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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/015,476
	Filing Date	December 13, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
	Group Art Unit	3739
	Examiner Name	Not yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission *	Attorney Docket Number	HOOV 120

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	- Return Receipt Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	* 8 Sheets plus 4 Patent References	

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd. Gary W. McFarron, Esq. (Reg. No. 27,357)
Signature	<i>Gary W. McFarron</i>
Date	January 21, 2003

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Attorney Docket No. HOOV 120

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,476

Filed: December 13, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Not yet Assigned

For: SUB-XYPHOID METHOD FOR
ABLATING CARDIAC TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicant hereby calls the Examiner's attention to documents listed on the attached form, which documents may be material to the examination of this application. A copy of each of the documents is enclosed herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

No inference should be drawn that any method disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. Also, the citation of the above-discussed documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence. Citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that any subject matter disclosed in the document is

necessarily within the inventive field of endeavor, that any disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that any disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention.

Applicant also respectfully reserves the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosure of those documents discussed herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the present patent application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no additional fee is required for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, should an additional fee be required, authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account 50-1039. (A duplicate of this document is enclosed herewith.)

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 21, 2003

By: 

Gary W. McFarron, Esq.
Registration No. 27,357
Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo,
Cummings & Mehler, Ltd.
200 West Adams St., Suite 2850
Chicago, IL 60606
Telephone: (312) 236-8500

Attorneys for Applicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,476

Filed: December 13, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

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NAME Jeannie Rapstad

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1. Transmittal Form PTO/SB/21 (1 sheet);
2. Status Inquiry (1 sheet);
3. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (in
duplicate, 4 sheets total);
4. PTO/SB/08A (1 sheet);
5. Four Patent References;
6. Certificate of Mailing (1 sheet); and
7. Return Receipt Postcard.

Name: Jeannie Rapstad

Signature:

Jeannie Rapstad

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	10/015,476
			Filing Date	December 13, 2001
			First Named Inventor	Michael D. Hooven
			Art Unit	3739
			Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number		HOOV 120	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials [*]	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US- 5,680,860	10-28-1997	Imran	
	2	US- 6,071,281	06-06-2000	Burnside et al.	
	3	US- 6,358,249	03-19-2002	Chen et al.	
	4	US- 6,464,700	10-15-2002	Koblish et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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